

# **Current Information on the Wilcox Oil Superfund Site**

#### Bristow, Oklahoma

March, 2015

#### This fact sheet will tell you about:

- Current Actions at the Wilcox Superfund Site (Site)
- The National Priorities List
- The Superfund Process
- Site History
- Contacts and More Information

#### **Current Actions at the Site**

In July 2014, EPA installed a cap on the drinking water well near the Church on the Site. The EPA also installed 690 linear feet of fencing and signage in a residential property on Site. Currently ODEQ is preforming quarterly testing of drinking water wells for residents in and around this Site and nothing was found above the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

In November 2014, ODEQ informed EPA that there was a potential elevated level of lead in the blood of a child living on the Site. The EPA developed a sampling plan and sampled the property in December 2014. Since the sampling event, additional fencing was installed on the property to avoid any additional accidental exposure of any additional contaminants.

The EPA Enforcement Section is currently identifying and pursuing viable potentially responsible parties (PRP).

#### The National Priorities List

The National Priorities List, or NPL, is a list of top priority sites to be addressed through the Superfund Law. Initially, 406 sites were listed when established in 1983, currently more than 1,685 sites are identified.

The EPA and the states continue to evaluate potential future sites. With the current rulemaking announcement, the EPA added the Site to the NPL on December 12, 2013.

#### **The Superfund Process**

The Superfund cleanup process begins with site discovery or notification to EPA of possible releases of hazardous substances. Sites are discovered by various parties, including citizens, State agencies, and EPA Regional offices. EPA then evaluates the potential for a release of hazardous substances from the site through a step-bystep process that includes site assessment, site inspections, and a ranking process to determine whether the site should be added to the NPL. Once on this list, EPA determines the best way to clean up the site to protect human health and the environment. Opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process.

#### **Site History**

Wilcox Oil Company is an inactive and abandoned oil refinery located in Bristow, Creek County, Oklahoma. The site consists of contaminated areas and surface water bodies due to releases from the former Lorraine and Wilcox Refineries. These former refineries operated from the mid-1920s to the early 1960s. The location of the releases from the two refineries is considered

to be a single site composed of a commingled release from the combined refinery operations. The area of the former refineries is approximately 125 acres.

Major operational areas include the former Site, Lorraine Refinery, and the product storage area (tank farm). Sources of contamination include contaminated soil, cooling ponds, and numerous tank bottoms. Contaminants of concern include metals and organic compounds in the former storage tank areas, surface soils, surface impoundment and sediments.

#### **Contacts and More Information**

#### Repository

City of Bristow Public Library 111 West 7th Street Bristow, OK 74010

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For additional information please consult the EPAR egion 6 website: http://www.epa.gov/region6/6sf/6sf-ok.htm

All inquiries from the news media should be directed to: EPA Region 6 Press Office Phone: 214.665.2200

